

MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Meeting #21

November 24, 2015

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Roll Call and Call to Order

Board Members Present: President Robert Yeo, Vice President Lawrence VanWasshenova, Secretary Ryan Philbeck, Parliamentarian Dr. Tedd March, Trustee Matthew Bunkelman, Trustee Floreine Mentel, and Trustee Cynthia Taylor

Board Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: Barry Martin, Julie Everly, Katherine Eighmey, Jerry Oley, David Payne

Administrators Absent: None

President Yeo called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Public Commentary-Agenda Items Only

There was none at this time.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. VanWasshenova; support by Mrs. Taylor to approve the minutes of the following meetings as submitted:

- November 10, 2015, Board Work Session
- November 10, 2015, Closed Session
- November 10, 2015, Board Meeting #20
- November 17, 2015, Special Board Meeting (2 sets)
- November 17, 2015, Closed Session (2 sets)
- November 17, 2015, Board Work Session

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Reports and Update

The November 16, 2015, Board Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes and the following Informational Reports were received: Contracted Services Recommendations, Contracted Coaches, and Club Paid Coaches.

Teacher Appointment

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. Bunkelman to approve the appointment of Tammy Laroche as a teacher with Monroe Public Schools effective December 2, 2015, and place on the appropriate salary level as contained in the Master Agreement, and upon completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Clerical Appointment

Motion by Mrs. Mentel; support by Mr. VanWasshenova to approve the appointment of Shonna Wener as secretary with Monroe Public Schools effective Monday, November 30, 2015, and place on the appropriate salary level as contained in the Master Agreement, and upon completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Teacher Appointment

Motion by Mr. Bunkelman; support by Mrs. Taylor to approve the appointment of Resa Chambers as a teacher with Monroe Public Schools effective November 30, 2015, and place on the appropriate salary level as contained in the Master Agreement, and upon completion of all pre-employment requirements.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Superintendent Comments

Congratulations to Waterloo's robotics team who qualified as one of only seven teams from the Monroe Regional to advance to the First Lego League State Tournament to be held December 12 at Jefferson High School. Only two Monroe County teams qualified. The team competed against teams from 30 other schools in the FLL Regional Qualifying Meet at Monroe High School.

During the recently completed College Application Week, Monroe High School seniors submitted 615 college applications, 532 of which were to in-state institutions. In all, 343 members of the senior class submitted at least one college application and 226 seniors submitted their first college application ever during College Application Week. A major push for college applications is being made at Monroe High School this year, with a whole day – October 28 – of College Application Week dedicated to being career and college-ready for the entire student body.

The Manor School Leadership Team hosted a fun friendship bonding activity where students in mixed-class groupings rotated through stations and classrooms to make pilgrim hat cookies, decorate an "I am thankful for" turkey feather, and made two Christmas ornaments. One of the ornaments will go on the school's Christmas tree and one is for charity. Today also marked the beginning of Manor's collection of items for the Humane Society and the Animal Control Shelter.

The volleyball season came to an end last week for our Monroe High team, but not before they made it to the state quarter finals, the farthest a Monroe High volleyball team has ever gone. Congratulations to Coach Windham and the girls for a fine season.

Our music program is starting a busy performance time of year. On December 2, the MHS Expressions will sing at the Toledo Zoo's *Lights Before Christmas*. The MHS Jazz Band, the 6th grade strings, Frenchtown Fiddlers and MMS Jubilation will perform at the Matthes Evergreen Farm, and the MHS Chamber Strings will play at a public dinner at the Christmas in Ida Festival on December 5. On December 6, all of the Monroe High School choral groups will sing at the Matthes Evergreen Farm. Our music program proves to be a wonderful group of community ambassadors each and every year, especially over the holidays.

In a recent push, more than 2,000 people signed up to receive text messages from us as part of our School Messenger program. That is in addition to being able to receive our voice and email messages.

On Wednesday, January 20, the Education Foundation of Monroe Public Schools will host an evening with Detroit Tigers TV announcer Mario Impemba. Tickets will be available soon.

Old Business

Mr. Bunkelman asked if the information we requested at the joint meeting with the City of Monroe has been received. Dr. Martin will forward the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and the City of Monroe Comprehensive Plan to Board members.

New Business

None

Public Commentary-Any Topic

Lynn Mitosinka requested a one year release for her children. She is concerned with the quality of their education.

Selma Rankins stated his belief that students are not learning. He thinks more black teachers and veterans should be hired.

Board Goals

Board members met on November 17 to review their current goals and determine if any modifications were needed. The three main goals are Student Achievement/District Performance, District Finances/Revenue, and Human Resources/Administration Structure. Methods were discussed to help achieve these goals. Dr. Martin will align these goals with the district school improvement goals.

Student Achievement remains the number one goal. The board wants to be kept abreast of what's working in the state and county, and how it can be applied in our district. Julie suggested Monroe Public Schools having a voice in Lansing when different bills are coming forward, like third grade reading retention. The Board wants academics focused on at the high school to the same degree that it's focused on at the elementary, and for teachers to be aware of available interventions.

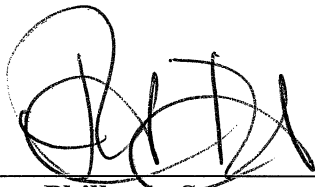
Teacher recruitment is a high priority with Board members. It was suggested to expand methods for recruiting teachers if needed. Board members want administration to explore teacher compensation and incentives. The human resource director position is still being discussed.

The prospect of utilizing reserve funds for a pilot project was discussed. However, board members agree that it's important to keep an excess amount available in the reserve fund. The board agreed that we have to be willing to make tough decisions in order to achieve our goals and objectives.

Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Taylor; support by Mr. Bunkelman that the November 24, 2015, Board Meeting #21 of the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education be adjourned.

Vote: Motion carried by a 7-0 hand vote at 8:35 p.m.



Ryan Philbeck, Secretary